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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00
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PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /127 W
----------068303 130501Z /23
R 122355Z SEP 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5308
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2990

E.O. 11562/GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, ILO, JA, US
SUBJECT: JAPAN-US PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS--ILO

SUMMARY: JAPANESE PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS DELEGATION, HEADED BY UN AFFAIRS DIR GEN OKAWA, INDICATED INTEREST AND CONCERN ABOUT THE US POSITION IN ILO. THIS SUBJECT CONSEQUENTLY WAS TAKEN UP AT FIRST SESSION OF CONSULTATIONS ON SEPTEMBER 8. OKAWA AND JAPANESE PERM REP ABE VOICED JAPANESE VIEW THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD US OBJECTIVES HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE IN ILO, THAT JAPAN AND OTHER FRIENDLY STATES WHO AGREE WITH US OBJECTIVES WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR FURTHER CHANGE, AND THAT IT WOULD BE A TRAGIC MISTAKE FOR THE US TO LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION. END SUMMARY.

1. AMBASSADOR ABE LED OFF THE JAPANESE PRESENTATION ON ILO. HE STATED JAPAN'S COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH US OBJECTIVES IN ITS INTENSIVE TWO-YEAR EFFORT TO BRING VARIOUS CHANGES IN ILO. HE SAID IT WAS VIEW OF HIS GOVT, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE A TRAGIC MISTAKE, DISASTROUS FOR CONTINUATION OF GOOD WORK OF THIS TRADITIONAL PART OF UN SYSTEM, IF US WERE TO TAKE FINAL DECISION TO WITHDRAW. HE SAID JAPAN HAD ALWAYS REGRETTED ITS ACTION IN WITHDRAWING FROM LEAGUE
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OF NATIONS, BECAUSE CONSEQUENCES, WHICH WERE BAD FOR JAPAN, DID NOT RESULTS IN AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE ORGANIZATION.

2. OKAWA REITERATED JAPAN'S HOPE THAT US WILL STAY IN ILO AND CONTINUE TO WORK WITHIN SYSTEM TO CHANGE ORGANIZATION. HE SAID HE BELIEVES THAT MAJOR GOALS OF US HAVE

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BEEN ACCEPTED BY MOST OF MEMBERS OF ILO AND THAT FRIENDS
AND ALLIES OF US ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINE THEIR EFFORTS
TO ACHIEVE REST OF CHANGES SOUGHT BY US. HE SAID IT IS
JAPAN'S VIEW, IN ANY EVENT, THAT EFFORTS TO POLITICIZE SUCH
ORGANIZATIONS AS ILO INEVITABLY WILL CONTINUE. ONLY SOLUTION
OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND OTHER WORLD PROBLEMS WOULD RELIEVE
ILO FROM SUCH PRESSURES. THE WAY TO COMBAT THEM, HOWEVER
MUST BE CONTINUED ALLIED EFFORTS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. SUCH
EFFORTS WOULD BE BOUND TO FAIL WITHOUT PRESENCE OF US.

3. DEPUTY PERM REP KANAZAWA, CONSIDERING PROBLEM OF CREDI-
BILITY WERE US NOW TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT WILL REMAIN IN ILO,
OFFERED THOUGHT THAT US LETTER OF INTENT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE
VIEWED AS A CERTAIN STIGMA OF INTENTION TO WITHDRAW. THE
COMMUNITY WOULD READILY ACCEPT IT AS A STATEMENT, INSTEAD OF
PRIMARY CONDITIONS PERMITTING US TO REMAIN IN ILO. KANA-
ZAWA SAID HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD IN NO WAY BE A PROBLEM
OF CREDIBILITY OF INTENTIONS OF US CONSIDERING VERY SUB-
STANTIAL PROGRESS THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE TOWARD THE
US OBJECTIVES AND THE LARGE MEASURE OF AGREEMENT IN THE
ORGANIZATION WITH US COMPLAINTS AND PRESCRIPTIONS FOR
CHANGE. HE ADDED HIS VOICE IN URGING A US DECISION TO
REMAIN IN THE ORGANIZATION.

4. OKAWA RECALLED SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE'S REQUEST TO
FOREIGN MINISTER HATOYAMA DURING THEIR RECENT TALK, CON-
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CERNING POSSIBILITY OF A STATEMENT ON ILO IN JAPAN'S GENERAL
DEBATE SPEECH BEFORE THE GENERAL SSEMBLY. OKAWA SAID THE
FOREIGN OFFICE IS PRESENTLY WORKING ON A DRAFT STATEMENT WHICH
WOULD BE RELEVANT TO THIS REQUEST. IN A SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE
CONVERSATION BETWEEN MAYNES AND OKAWA, OKAWA SAID THEY ARE
PRESENTLY THINKING OF A BRIEF GENERALIZED REFERENCE TO A NEED
TO PERMIT SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO GET ON WITH THEIR SUB-
STANTIVE WORK WITHOUT DIVERSION OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGN. HE
SAID PRESENT THINKING OF DRAFTERS WOULD NOT INCLUDE SPECIFIC
MENTION OF ILO. MAYNES SAID SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD OF COURSE
BE TRUE AND A HELPFUL GESTURE. HE URGED, HOWEVER, THAT NATURE
OF ILO PROBLEM MERITS SPECIFIC REFERENCE BY JAPAN IN ITS
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR OUR COMMONLY HELD OBJECTIVES.
HE WENT OVER WITH OKAWA OUR CONCERNS IN THE ORGANIZATION,
AND OKAWA SAID HE WOULD GIVE THESE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION
IN DRAFTING THE GOJ STATEMENT.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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